

voting privilege. Therefore, there is no real discrimination. Now it shows a section, but I won't read it, where voters in all districts affected by a reorganization must vote to accept the reorganization which would trigger the special voting privilege. So, therefore, I wanted this in the record and I wanted you to hear that there is a safeguard and also in the bill, it's to go to the Supreme Court for a declaratory judgment. So I believe that everything in the bill is fine regarding to the voting. Thank you, Mr. President.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Beutler, please.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Question.

SPEAKER NICHOL: The question has been called. Do I see five hands? I do. The question is, shall debate cease? All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 30 ayes, 1 nay to cease debate, Mr. President.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Debate has ceased. Senator Lamb, would you like to close on your motion, please.

SENATOR LAMB: Mr. President, members, I don't know where Senator Haberman got his information, but he's not reading from the Attorney General's Opinion. The Attorney General's Opinion says, "Accordingly we are of the opinion that the constitutionality of Section 12 of LB 662 would be very difficult to defend." Just very briefly, let me sum up. I have made every effort to try to meet the original goal of LB 662 and that is tax equity. Senator Landis and others said it's merely a user fee. When those Class I's send their students to high school they pay a user fee. I tried to get on a meaningful affiliation amendment which would meet that objection so that instead of what he calls a user fee, it's a mill levy. It's a levy against the valuation of that school district for high school purposes. That has not met with approval and the current version of the bill has practically stripped that out. For all practical purposes I'm guessing there will not be any affiliations, that it does force merger and that, as indicated in the Attorney General's Opinion, it will close schools although that was one of the arguments on the other side of the issue early when this debate began. I can only say again that I and